


ATTORNEY DOCKET No.: 0492479-0041 (MGH 2170 US)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Papisov *et al.* Examiner: NYA.
Serial No: NYA Group Art Unit: NYA
Filing Date: January 18, 2005
Corresp. to: PCT/US03/22584
Int. Filing Date: July 18, 2003
Priority: July 19, 2002
Title: OXIME CONJUGATES AND METHODS FOR THEIR FORMATION AND
USE

Mail Stop: PCT
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January 18, 2005

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to examination of the above-referenced application, Applicant respectfully requests entry of the following amendments in the above-referenced patent application:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 17 of this paper.

Conclusions begin on page 18 of this paper.

This Amendment is believed to be in compliance with the Revised Amendment Format published in the Federal Register on June 30, 2003 (68 FR 38611), and therefore to be exempt from the requirements of 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(a)-(d).